



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 6, 2008

Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Information Officer
(210) 384-7440

**TRANSCRIBED AUDIO STATEMENT OF U.S. ATTORNEY JOHNNY SUTTON
REGARDING THE SENTENCING OF GERARDO FELIPE ORTIZ**

“This is United States Attorney Johnny Sutton. Today in El Paso, Texas, Gerardo Ortiz was sentenced to 70 months in federal prison for trying to run over a Border Patrol agent with his car in April of last year.

Everyone knows that United States Border Patrol agents have tough and dangerous jobs and occasionally they are put in life threatening situations. When an agent reasonably believes that he is about to be hurt or killed, he has every right to defend himself. That’s exactly what agent Figueroa did in this case. Anyone who tries to injure a United States Border Patrol agent will face serious consequences for their actions just like Mr. Ortiz did today.

I’d like to congratulate the FBI, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement as well as the Border Patrol and El Paso Police Department for the good job that they did in investigating this case and bringing this criminal to justice.”